

## **Title of Request for Bid: Understanding the Economic Output of Increasing Employment Outcomes for People with Disabilities**

Date of Release: November xx, 2017

Due Date: December xx, 2017, 4:30 PM (MST). Applicants interested in the Request to Bid shall submit one electronic copy to the person listed in Contact.

Contact: All questions related to the Request to Bid shall be sent via email to

Marcella Crane, Contracts Manager

ADDPC

3839 North Third Street, Suite 306

Phoenix, AZ 85012

[mcrane@azdes.gov](mailto:mcrane@azdes.gov)

602-542-8976

Project Contract Period: All work shall be conducted by June 30, 2018. Vendor shall not begin work until purchase order is issued by the State of Arizona.

### **Background & Purpose of Bid**

The Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) is fully federally funded and charged with advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that promote inclusion of people with developmental disabilities across the lifespan. Council members are appointed by the Governor and make all funding decisions on which programs to support. A key goal area for ADDPC is employment, in which we work diligently to increase awareness of employment potential of people who have developmental disabilities, link them to resources needed to achieve their employment potential, and foster job creation.

As part of its focus on raising awareness and fostering job creation, ADDPC seeks to hire a firm or individual to conduct research on the economic impact for the State of Arizona of including people with disabilities in the workforce. People with disabilities are significantly underrepresented in

Arizona's workforce and in the nation. Despite substantial improvement in Arizona's labor market conditions over the past decade, the gap in employment outcomes for people with and without disabilities has widened. By 2016, only 34.8% of Arizonans with disabilities were employed - much lower than the 74.5% of Arizonans without a disability employed. There are substantial costs to individuals and to society associated with these poor employment outcomes for people with disabilities. The ADDPC seeks to better understand the economic output that could be achieved by increasing employment outcomes for people with disabilities.

### **Keys Tasks to Complete**

1. Describe disability demographics in Arizona to include definition, type, prevalence, trend data, socioeconomic status, and age;
2. Analyze the state's current economic situation, labor market outcomes and how people with disability and without disabilities participate in the labor market;
3. Provide economic projections for income assistance programs impacted if people with disabilities remain out of the labor force (e.g., SSI/SSDI, Medicaid);
4. Interview agency staff at DDD, VR, Social Security, AHCCCS, and RBHA, as well as literature and existing data review to discuss their utilization, trends, state and federal initiatives underway, barriers or threats, and progress towards employment;
5. Create a statistical model that measures the impact for the State of Arizona for employing people with disabilities and write up results. (For examples, see previous research, Deloitte Access Economics. (2011). *The economic benefits of increasing employment for people with disability*, retrieved from [https://www.and.org.au/data/Conference/DAE\\_Report\\_8May.pdf](https://www.and.org.au/data/Conference/DAE_Report_8May.pdf));
6. Produce a final report with Executive Summary and Conclusions that may be shared with state legislature, Governor, and agency and community leadership. (Next steps should be included in final report);
7. Create a condensed report (less than 5 pages) written in plain language with visual graphics that may be accessed by general population. Information on plain language can be found here: <https://www.plainlanguage.gov>

The primary research questions will be the following:

1. How are workers with disabilities currently included in the state's labor market, and how does this compare to national averages?
2. What efforts are underway to increase employment outcomes among workers with disabilities and how are these efforts faring?
3. What would the impact be on our state's GDP or other fiscal measures if more people with disabilities were employed?
4. What would be the impact to state agencies if employment among people with disabilities remained stagnant over time?

### **Scope of Work Sections**

Section 1: Name of Firm and Key Contact Information

Name of Organization Replying to Request for Bid:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Person Authorized to Submit Bid: \_\_\_\_\_

Section 2: Briefly describe organizational capacity of the firm to conduct this type of work.

Section 3: Provide the name of key researcher and research team, educational background, length of time with firm, and current title at firm. Attach current resumes or CVs of each team member involved in research. Key Researcher must have a Ph.D in Economics, Public Policy or related field.

Section 4: Provide up to two current references. Include contact information, and briefly describe the type of research conducted, for whom was the research conducted for, and when the research was completed.

Section 5: Provide total all-inclusive cost to conduct bid. Calculate total hours to complete work x hourly rate. What are the total hours to be devoted to research on a weekly basis? No subcontracting is allowed.

### **Format for Submission**

Vendor shall submit a written narrative answering each section in the Scope of Work (five sections are to be completed). Please do not leave any section/question unanswered. Maximum number of pages, not including any attachments is 10 pages. Use 12 point font size, single space, and use only these fonts: Verdana or Ariel.

Submission: Email to Marcella Crane, at [mcrane@azdes.gov](mailto:mcrane@azdes.gov) one electronic copy, in PDF format. The due date and time is December XX, 2017 at 3:00 PM (MST).